

04-18-02

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

on April 8, 2002

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By


Brad J. Loos

00100 PATENT 0300 #4

Attorney Docket No.: 018563-001120US
Client Reference No.: AT-00014.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

LOC X. PHAN et al.

Application No.: 10/040,269

Filed: October 29, 2001

For: ATTACHMENT DEVICES AND
METHODS FOR A DENTAL
APPLIANCE

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97
and §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

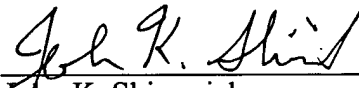
Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the references, except U.S. Patent Nos. 5,975,893 and 6,309,215, can be found in Application No. 09/454,278 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,309,215), filed 12/03/99 (Attorney Docket No. 18563-001110US). Copies of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,975,893 and 6,309,215 are enclosed herewith. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



John K. Shimmick
Reg. No. 44,335

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400 // Fax: 650-326-2422
JKS:nap